

Message Text

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PAGE 01 MOGADI 01503 160622Z

43

ACTION INR-07

INFO OCT-01 AF-08 ISO-00 IO-13 CIAE-00 NSAE-00 /029 W

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R 160520Z SEP 76

FM AMEMBASSY MOGADISCIO

TO USMISSION USUN NEW YORK

INFO SECSTATE WASHDC 4220

C O N F I D E N T I A L MOGADISCIO 1503

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: UNGA, PINR (KASSIM, HUSSEIN ABDULKADIR)

SUBJECT: BIO SKETCH ON SOMALI DELEGATION CHIEF AT UNGA

REF: MOGADISCIO 1500

HUSSEIN ABDULKADIR KASSIM HAS BEEN MINISTER OF MINERAL AND WATER RESOURCES SINCE 1974. BORN IN 1944, HUSSEIN WAS ONE OF FIRST GRADUATES OF NATIONAL UNIVERSITY, RECEIVING LAW DEGREE IN 1971. BEFORE AND DURING UNIVERSITY STUDY HUSSEIN WORKED AS AN ACCOUNTANT FOR MOBIL AND, LATER, BURMAH OIL AND, IN 1969, SERVED BRIEFLY AS NORTHERN REGIONAL MANAGER OF SOMALI AIRLINES. HUSSEIN HAS BEEN DE FACTO FOREIGN MINISTER SINCE APRIL WHEN THE FORMER MINISTER, OMAR ARTEH GHALIB, WAS DISMISSED. HE REPRESENTED SOMALIA AT THE OAU SUMMIT IN MAURITIUS AND AT THE MINISTERIAL-LEVEL TALKS PRECEDING THE NON-ALIGNED SUMMIT IN COLOMBO LAST MONVP. HUSSEIN REPORTEDLY SPEAKS GOOD ENGLISH. WHILE HIS PERSONAL POLITICAL BELIEFS AND ATTITUDES TOWARD THE U.S. ARE NOT KNOWN, HE HAS SEEMED TO HAVE LITTLE DIFFICULTY EXPRESSING THE GSDR'S BASICALLY ANTI-AMERICAN POSITIONS IN VARIOUS INTERNATIONAL FORA.

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: BIOGRAPHIC INFORMATION, MEETING DELEGATIONS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 16 SEP 1976
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: coburnhl
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1976MOGADI01503
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D760349-1123
From: MOGADISCIO
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1976/newtext/t19760954/aaaabtsf.tel
Line Count: 47
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ACTION INR
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 1
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: 76 MOGADISCIO 1500
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: coburnhl
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 19 MAY 2004
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <19 MAY 2004 by woolflhd>; APPROVED <15 SEP 2004 by coburnhl>
Review Markings:

Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
04 MAY 2006

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: BIO SKETCH ON SOMALI DELEGATION CHIEF AT UNGA
TAGS: PINR, SO, UNGA, (KASSIM, HUSSEIN ABDULKADIR)
To: USUN NEW YORK
Type: TE
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 04 MAY 2006